

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LA PAZ 01962 062113 Z

71

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 DOTE-00 FMC-04 RSR-01 /120 W

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R 061658 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9511

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS LA PAZ 1962

EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR CI BL

SUBJ: GOB/ GOC PORT TALKS-- BOLIVIAN ATTITUDE

REF: SANTIAGO 1383

1. AN OFFICIAL OF IMBOLPEX (BOLIVIAN EXPORT INSTITUTE) TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE REASON FOR THE DISRUPTION OF PORT TALKS WITH CHILE WAS THE " INTRASIGENCE" OF THE CHILEANS IN REFUSING TO REVISE PORT TAXES AND TARIFFS. HE SAID THAT THE CHILEANS UNILATERALLY RAISED TRANSPORTATION AND HANDLING COSTS TO BOLIVIA FOR GOODS DESTINED TO LA PAZ AND REFUSED TO GIVE ADEQUATE PROTECTION AGAINST PILFERAGE TO BOLIVIAN FREIGHT. HE NOTED THAT ALMOST 400,000 TONS OF BOLIVIAN MINERALS ALONE GO THROUGH CHILEAN PORTS. HE SAID THAT " ANY GOOD BUSINESSMAN" WOULD LONG AGO HAVE LOWERED ITS RATES TO ITS BEST CUSTOMERS.

2. IN A VITUPERATIVE EDITORIAL PUBLISHED IN EL DIARIO OF APRIL 4 GASTON VELASCO CALLED FOR A COMPLETE BREAKING OF RELATIONS WITH CHILE UNTIL THE LATTER GIVES BOLIVIA A PORT. VELASCO SAID THAT CHILE WAS EXPLOITING THE BOLIVIAN ECONOMY WITH IMPUNITY BY RAISING PORT CHARGES AND SIMPLE ROBBERY OF MERCHANDISE. HE CONCLUDED THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE SENT THROUGH THE " STOLEN" SEAPORTS BUT RATHER THROUGH ARGENLINE, PERUVIAN AND BRAZILIAN PORTS.
SIRACUSA

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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